

May 10, 1999

Jane E. Henney, FDA Commissioner
Parklawn Building, Room 14-71
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

1256 '99 MAY 17 P2:24

Re: Unnecessary Usage of Antibiotics on Animals

Dear Commissioner Henney;

As a concerned parent of two small daughters and as a member of the Center for Science in the Public Interest(CSPI). I urge you to save human lives by banning the use of medically useful antibiotics to animal feed. Adding antibiotics to feed in order to promote growth can make bacteria resistant to those antibiotics. And that can leave physicians with no way to treat life-threatening bacterial infections in humans. That is why I support the petition filed by CSPI. It has become increasingly apparent, from the numerous and recent newspaper articles addressing these resistant strains of bacteria, that a serious problem exists. There are no longer those last resort antibiotics that can be utilized to stop these killers. I am alarmed that my daughters have to grow up in a world where they have to fear a simple infection, just as our ancestors did many years ago. Are we regressing back to these fearful days?

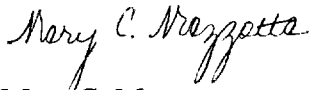
You have a difficult job before you. Today there exists a magnitude of problems with the food that we consume on a daily basis. From, E. coli, Salmonella, harmful pesticides on all of our produce, irradiated meats, unsafe food additives to questionably safe artificial colors that exist in every child coveted product on the market. The list could go on and on. As a mother I buy organic produce, whenever possible. I refuse to let my children consume products that contain an abundance of artificial colors and additives. I want the food that they eat to be as pure and natural as possible. I purchase milk from cows that are not treated with recombinant bovine growth hormone, although it is very difficult to find. One of my daughters is lactose intolerant, however I have no way of knowing that the "Lactaid" milk that I purchase for her contains rBGH because the distributors of this milk are not required to label their cartons with this information. Please require all dairies to properly label their milk and other products with this information!! Please give consumers the right to know what is in the products that we consume on a daily basis. Mothers are fearful. Please give us right to choose the best for our children. Let us raise healthy families. Put children first over these powerful lobbyists who urge you to make choices based on the profits that they greedily wish to make for the groups that they represent. I urge you to support the petition filed by the CSPI regarding the above captioned matter, and also to label products properly, especially dairy products, which children consume in great abundance, with the appropriate information with I have outlined within.

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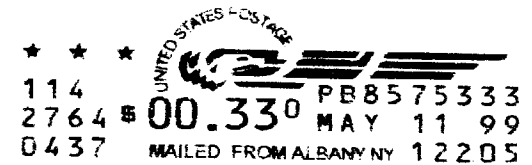
Thank you for taking the time to review this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary C. Mazzotta".

Mary C. Mazzotta
5 Hampstead Court
Clifton Park, New York, 12065

Mary P. Mazzetta
5 Hampstead Court
Clifton Park, New York 12065



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